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5. — *An Inquiry into the Present State of the Remedial Law of Massachusetts ; with suggestions for its Reform.*
By L. S. CUSHING. [Republished from the American Jurist for July, 1837.] Hilliard, Gray, & Co. 1837.
8vo. pp. 52.

THIS is a learned, bold, and well-written tract. The reforms which it advocates are searching ; but they are sustained by reasons, which it is easier to question than to answer. Mr. Cushing recommends nothing less than the amalgamation of the two systems of law and equity, and the construction or revival from the two of a sort of *tertium quid*, in the language of the chemists, which shall have the great advantage of unity and consistency. Unprofessional readers may not be aware that our jurisprudence, in addition to the vast body of statutes, is composed of what is called the Common Law, being the usages which have been handed down from the early days of English history, and authenticated from time to time by decisions of the courts, and also of what is called Equity or Chancery, the latter system being of later origin than the other, and intended to supply its deficiencies. Chancery is, in short, the complement of the common law. It has grown up gradually with the necessities of society ; and, by correcting the rigor of the ancient law, modifying many of its principles, and giving the citizen new remedies, it has kept our jurisprudence constantly adapted, like the Lesbian rule of antiquity, to the changing surface of society. The system of Equity, however, like the common law, depends upon usage, and was the natural offspring of the progress of civilization. Now it can hardly be questioned that our system would be preferable to what it is now, if it were divested of its present Janus-face, and made to assume but one countenance. All that we mean to say, is, that one complete and comprehensive system of law, in which there is a prevailing unity, and where all the remedies harmonize, would be preferable to one like that we now live under, where courts proceed in different ways, and apply different remedies, according to the respective systems which they administer. The difficulty is in bringing about such a restoration. No greater change could be suggested. Though we do not see our way clear to any speedy accomplishment of it, yet we are not unwilling to look it in the face, and calmly estimate its importance, and the manner in which it may be best effected. And here the present tract will render important service. The subject is handled by Mr. Cushing with unsurpassed clearness, both of style and argu-

ment, and with a full knowledge of its difficulties. Though it has occupied no inconsiderable portion of the attention of the profession in England, we are not aware that it has called out any discussion, which, for general completeness, can compare with the present. Mr. Johnes's treatise on this subject is one of the most interesting works on law-reform which has appeared, and is written in a style which shows the scholar, as well as the lawyer; but the view, which he has presented, though in greater space, has not the thorough character of Mr. Cushing's tract.

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6. — *An Introduction to the Latin Language*. By SAMUEL WILLARD, A. A. S., Author of "The Franklin Primer," "The Popular Reader," &c. Boston. Hilliard, Gray, & Co. 1835. 12mo. pp. 226.

It gives us pleasure to recommend this Latin Grammar to all who are desirous of introducing their pupils to the Latin language in a pleasant as well as a thorough manner. We say pleasant, not because we believe in the magic power of those gay toys by which learning and philosophy are to be insinuated into the young mind, almost without its being conscious of it; but because we do think it important, that the first steps in any department of learning should not be the most difficult. A child should certainly be taught that he cannot become a good scholar without labor; but it is not necessary that he should be frightened at the outset, in order to his perception of this wholesome truth. We tell him, when we conduct him to the hill-side, that it is "laborious indeed at the first ascent"; he may be sure that he cannot fold his arms, and be carried to the summit in a carriage, or a rail-way car; but he may thank those, who, like Dr. Willard, have cut steps in the green turf, here and there, to assist the young and the feeble. We think, then, that the elements of a language or a science should be conveyed in as agreeable a manner as is consistent with a good understanding of them. The love of the pursuit will by degrees bring a love of the labor necessary to farther progress; but, unless children find some pleasure in the beginning of the race, they will not run on vigorously; they must be enticed at first, as Sir Philip Sidney says savage nations must be, otherwise "great promises of much knowledge will little persuade them that know not the fruits of knowledge."

Those of our readers, who, in their early days, committed to memory the Latin Grammar from beginning to end, "Orthography, Etymology, Syntax, and Prosody," before they began to